

## 3. Methodology

### *3.1 Method by which multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary input was provided from all regions of the state into the Plan.*

Interoperability communications needs assessments were conducted at both the regional/consortium and statewide level to focus on interoperable communications and emergency communications network issues and discussion about solutions. Participating in developing the local consortium projects and Statewide Plan were representatives from various jurisdictions.

1. Local Law Enforcement Agencies
  - A. County Sheriffs
  - B. City Police Departments
  - C. Tribal Law Enforcement
2. Local Public Safety/Emergency Responders
  - A. EMS (public and private)
  - B. City Fire Departments
  - C. Rural and/or Volunteer Fire Departments
  - D. Search and Rescue Teams
  - E. Airport Security
  - F. Jurisdiction-level DES
3. Public Works
4. Juvenile Probation (District Courts)
5. Jurisdiction Public Health Reps.
6. Local Sanitarians
7. County Commissioners
8. Public Utilities (electricity, gas)
9. Broadcast Radio Stations
10. Coroners
11. Amateur Radio Operators
12. Railroad
13. Civil Air Patrol
14. Schools
15. Radio Shops
16. BIA



### Multi-County Level

1. District DES
2. Drug Task Forces
3. DUI Task Forces
4. Adult Parole & Probation Regional Administrators (Dept. of Corrections)

### State Level

1. Montana Army National Guard (Military Affairs)
2. Montana State-level DES
3. Montana Department of Justice
  - Highway Patrol
  - Criminal Investigations Bureau
  - Narcotics Investigation Bureau
  - Fire Prevention & Investigations Bureau
4. Montana Department of Transportation (including District Administrator)
5. DPHHS Public Health
6. Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
7. Montana Department of Corrections
8. Montana Department of Livestock
9. Montana Department of Environmental Quality

### Federal/International Level

1. Customs
2. US DOT
3. Red Cross
4. DEA
5. INS
6. FBI
7. US Marshals Service
8. US Probation
9. BLM
10. Border Patrol
11. US Forest Service



12. US National Parks Service

13. FEMA

14. Canada

Working collaboratively within the consortium and with others throughout the state has brought about the most effective plan, design and implementation of a system not only for individual consortia but also for other consortia and the state and region as a whole.

During the needs assessment phase various jurisdiction representatives, Project Directors and representatives from Project Management met face-to-face with as many of the jurisdiction stakeholders as was possible. Prior to the meeting with the Project Manager, all identified jurisdiction stakeholders were given a questionnaire to fill out. During these meetings, stakeholders were asked to describe their most pressing issues. Follow up meetings were held in each jurisdiction near the end of the project to present some of the findings for the design strategy, preliminary design, and coverage maps.

### **Materials Provided to Jurisdiction Representatives**

#### ***Questionnaires***

Questionnaires were provided to stakeholders throughout the consortium.

#### ***Site Surveys***

Site surveys were performed by local individuals in each jurisdiction. These surveys were not exhaustive, but they provided enough information to conduct the preliminary design.

#### ***Letters of Support Template***

Each primary jurisdiction and tribal contact was provided a template for a letter of support.

This template was to be filled out by various agencies in an area to demonstrate support for the project. These letters were then intended to be used in grant proposals.

#### ***Non-Jurisdiction Stakeholders***

In addition to stakeholders within the counties, several state, tribal or federal stakeholders were contacted as well. In many emergencies, such as a forest or grassland fire, communication with these non-jurisdiction stakeholders is extremely critical.

The recommendations and strategy described in developing the consortia projects and statewide plan are intended to be in alignment with the Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC) definition of interoperable communications.

*Interoperability refers to the ability of public safety emergency responders to work seamlessly with other systems or products without any special effort. Wireless communications interoperability specifically refers to the ability of public safety officials to share information via voice and data signals on demand, in real time and when needed.*

The SIEC, the Interoperability Montana Projects Directors (IMPD) and local consortia project members worked in conjunction to provide input into this Statewide Communications



Interoperability Plan. The key to its success in representing multi-jurisdictions and multi-disciplines was the ability to build on an existing interoperability structure and organization that has been developing in Montana over the past three years.

Please see Appendix F for the Interoperability Montana Consortia Needs Assessments.

### ***3.2 Process for continuing to have local input and for building local support of the plan***

#### **Coordination with Ongoing Initiatives**

Montana has three levels of ongoing activities related to interoperability. These include:

1. The Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC), which is responsible for advising and setting policy on a statewide basis;
2. The Interoperability Montana Project Directors (IMPD), which approves project direction and initiates project development;
3. The nine (9) regional consortia, which represent local and tribal jurisdictions that assess needs and implement new projects.

The Interoperability Montana Project is comprised of members from each one of these groups. As such, ongoing coordination and communication is conducted on a regular basis, including collecting data and presenting results. Because this interdisciplinary team will continue working on policy and implementation approaches for the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP), a very close working relationship with the IMPD and SIEC is anticipated. In fact, some representatives serve on both boards. During the planning process, all consortia were apprised of SCIP activities and given opportunities for input. This initiative will be continued on an on-going basis, including the opportunity to provide feedback to the IMPD on a regular basis. Updates will be provided during regularly scheduled meetings and via electronic means.

As part of the communications strategy, team progress and drafts were made available to non-team members through the SIEC and IM Project web pages, to inform other parties interested in interoperability issues and to solicit comments.

With such an ambitious project, maintaining momentum and focus on team goals will be critical. Montana has an advantage in this process due to several factors. First, the State of Montana is already organized into groups that facilitate working with the interdisciplinary team, including the SIEC, IMPD, regional consortia and local response organizations. These groups have a positive history of interaction and cooperation. Secondly, Montana's approach is grassroots, meaning that leadership comes from the local level. This has facilitated buy-in on the local, state, tribal and Federal level and these groups are working together. Great concern and focus exists for developing standard interoperability policies and governance across the state. Additionally, this issue has the attention and the support of the Governor's office and members of the State Legislature.

Montana is committed to SCIP on a local and state level. Currently, key state agencies including Department of Administration; Department of Public Health and Human Services; Department of Transportation, Disaster and Emergency Services; Fish, Wildlife and Parks; Highway Patrol; and the Montana National Guard have all contributed staff time on this Plan. This cooperation



will continue during and beyond the current scope. More importantly, local representatives on the SIEC, IMPD and consortia have also committed substantial time and resources to this effort. This commitment is expected to continue. The State of Montana also has access to consultants who are involved in developing regional assessments and are being used to assist with statewide project management.

Staff support will be from the Department of Administration, primarily the Information Technology Services Division's Public Safety Service Bureau. Other state and local representatives on the team may be utilized from time to time to complete specialized tasks, and have been incorporated into this approach. Contracted services are being used to for project management, printing services and public education.

Commitment from local, state and tribal agencies as well as the use of contracted resources will ensure a process that the SCIP will continue in the most efficient manner.

### ***3.3 TICP incorporated into the statewide plan***

Montana's Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) pertained only to the Yellowstone County area because the Communications Sub-Committee of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) in Yellowstone County was the lead that participated in the Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) process. The Yellowstone County area includes the cities of Billings, Broadview, and Laurel. Yellowstone County's Disaster and Emergency Services (DES), provided most of the coordination for the development and implementation of the TICP.

## **DES Sections**

Montana DES is made up of four Sections and three Branches, as follows:

- Finance/Administrative Section
- Logistics Section
- Planning Section
- Operations Section
  - Recovery Branch
  - Response Branch
  - Field Services Branch, consisting of Six District Representatives (District 5 serves Yellowstone County)

Specifically, the plan is intended to be used by the first responder disciplines that would respond to the scene of an emergency, as well as other disciplines that would need to be coordinated with during the response. Thus, the agencies involved are the following within the borders of Yellowstone County:



## **Local Agencies**

Yellowstone County Disaster Emergency and Services (DES)

Yellowstone County/City Health Department

Yellowstone County Public Works

Yellowstone County Rural Fire Departments

Lockwood Fire Department

City of Billings Fire Department

City of Billings Communications Center

City of Billings Public Works Department

American Medical Response (private)

City of Laurel Fire Department

City of Laurel Dispatch Center

City of Laurel Ambulance

City of Laurel Public Works

## **State of Montana Agencies**

Montana Highway Patrol

Montana National Guard

Department of Natural Resources and Conservation

Montana DES

## **Federal Agencies**

Bureau of Indian Affairs

Bureau of Land Management

Federal Bureau of Investigations

US Marshals Service

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms

## **Indian Nations**

Crow Nation

The Billings and Laurel Police Departments and the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office provide law enforcement activities within their respective cities and throughout the county. The Montana Highway Patrol provides traffic safety law enforcement activities throughout the county. All of the law enforcement agencies participate in mutual aid, and they train and exercise together.



The Billings, Laurel, and Lockwood Fire Departments and the County Rural Fire Departments provide fire service activities within their respective cities and throughout the county. The fire departments participate in mutual aid, train and exercise together.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is provided by several of the rural fire departments and also by the City of Laurel and the private ambulance service of American Medical Response. City/County Health and two health care/hospitals facilities work together to provide prevention, detection, and response to health care incidents. The three Public Works Departments in the City/County frequently coordinate with public health and law enforcement to ensure site security and health standards.

State and Federal agencies support local response entities with their planning, preparedness, mitigation, and response to emergencies or disasters. The working group responsible for identifying, developing, and overseeing technical solutions is the established Interoperability Montana Technical Committee (IMTC). IMTC membership consists of local, state, tribal and federal communications experts throughout the State of Montana.

The Big Sky 11 Consortium includes City of Billings and Yellowstone County representatives. The City of Billings and Yellowstone County are working to replace legacy technologies that have presented a barrier to interoperability in the past. In addition, city and county officials are becoming more educated about interoperability issues, and are taking a more active role in consortium activities.

### ***3.4 Implementation of all components of the statewide plan.***

#### **Governance and Technical Review**

##### **The Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC)**

The SIEC is comprised of local, tribal, state, federal, and other public service agency representatives. Its purpose is to provide policy-level direction for matters related to planning, designing and implementing guidelines, best practices, and standard approaches to solve Montana's public safety communications interoperability problems and to leverage any opportunity in support of a statewide system, including seeking federal funding, or other funding, for statewide interoperability. Sharing of a common radio infrastructure will eliminate duplications of capital investment projects reducing total radio communications cost for each participating agency.

##### **Interoperability Montana Project Directors (IMPD)**

The IM Project Directors of the nine consortia throughout the state plus the three state agencies will provide project definition and oversight. The directors wholly represent the local communications needs of their communities and work together to collaboratively build a shared system designed to improve the safety of their residents and the responders who serve them.

##### **Interoperability Montana Governance Committee (IMGC)**

The IMGC is tasked with developing strategies for implementing long term governance and maintenance solutions for the IM Project. The IMGC is made of representatives from the IMPD, Public Safety Services Bureau, the Governor's Office and other agencies.



The IMGC is teaming with the Montana State University's Local Government Center to develop and foster strategies for continued long-term governance and maintenance issues.

### **Interoperability Montana Technical Committee (IMTC)**

The IMTC serves an important role in evaluating technology, determining technical specifications for equipment and sites, assessing communications sites, identifying frequencies, ensuring compliance with P25 standards, and addressing encryption and bandwidth issues. The IMTC formulated technical criteria that have been used to prepare a prioritized list of infrastructure projects, which the IMPD has adopted.

Ultimately, the IM Project will provide advanced channel management for the shared use of frequencies, seamless roaming, and enhanced responder safety through embedded signaling, while at the same time enhancing interoperable communications with existing legacy VHF radios. This approach will allow public safety responders in Montana to exchange voice and data communications on demand and in real time during emergencies and disasters.

This expert group consists of representatives from each consortium and meets monthly via telephone conference and conducts monthly face-to-face meetings.

### **Partnership Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding**

The Interoperability Montana Project has developed a number of important agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) at multiple levels to ensure the project moves forward in a best practice methodology. These agreements are kept in the project file currently managed by the Project Management and include:

- Consortium Memorandum of Understanding: Agreements that formed the consortia and Board of Project Directors, signed by local agencies.
- Memorandum of Partnership Agreement: MOA that defines the responsibility and participation by partners, including the State of Montana, IMPD, U.S. Air Force and National Guard.
- Memorandum of Agreement (State of Montana and U.S. Department of Interior): An agreement that allows IM system sharing with DOI agents and the sharing of DOI radio sites and frequencies.
- BNSF Railways Agreements (Northern Tier, IMPD and State of Montana): Agreements that allow for digital backbone sharing and radio site co-location.
- Site Use Agreement: The document that outlines the rights and responsibilities of radio users at a particular site.
- Site Lease Agreement: The document that legally defines the term of leases for land, shelters and towers for the project.
- Equipment Acceptance Agreement: The document that local, state or tribal officials sign accepting ownership of the equipment purchased with Homeland Security money and guarantees use by the IM project.





- **Interlocal Agreement (ILA):** Montana's Interlocal Cooperation Act (Title 7, Chapter 11, Part 1, Montana Code Annotated) permits local governmental units, such as municipalities, counties, or any agency or department of the state of Montana, to formally agree to cooperate with other local governmental units on the basis of mutual advantage to provide services and/or facilities. Montana's nine consortia are in the process of signing ILAs that will establish the authority and participation of local jurisdictions in the IM Project. It is expected that all ILAs will be signed and filled with County Clerk and Records by the end of 2007.
- **Memorandum of Understanding:** This MOU ties all the consortia and other state entities together to provide the IMPD with the legal authority to conduct business within the State of Montana. A draft of the MOU is currently being reviewed by the IMPD, and will be voted on for approval at the Dec. 4 IMPD meeting.

### ***PSIC and Statewide Planning***

Montana's SCIP is currently being developed through a combined effort of the Interoperability Montana Project Directors (IMPD), contracted support through Northrop Grumman and Montana State University, and State of Montana agencies. This effort is being monitored and reviewed by the SAA for grant compliance. The IMPD has reviewed and approved the SCIP and has been kept apprised of PSIC Grant Investment Justifications to ensure they meet SCIP criteria.

Recommendations made by the IMPD are consistent with the "Definition of Interoperability" as approved by the State Interoperable Executive Council (SIEC) and are consistent with goals established in the SCIP.

After evaluation by the IMTC and approval by the IMPD, the project is placed on a priority list and given to the SAA to ensure that it meets the requirements of the PSIC grant and Montana's SCIP. The IM Project will then work in cooperation with the SAA to implement the project in the most efficient way possible, following grant guidance and requirements and coordinating the activity with other projects. The IMPD has final authority to determine what projects will be funded with PSIC grant funding.

The IMPD formally adopted general priorities for interoperability projects over the next year. The five general priority categories include

1. To build out infrastructure
2. To expand the microwave capacity
3. To complete projects that have been started
4. To populate existing sites with trunking equipment
5. Examine the TICP (Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan) recommendations for Billings and develop a strategy and a plan for addressing the recommendations.

Each of these priorities is designed to lay the foundation for effective interoperable backbone technologies that will facilitate digital voice and data communications that are consistent across Montana. In addition, these priorities are consistent with SAFECOM "Recommended Federal Grant Guidance, Public Safety Communications and Interoperability Grants, FY 2007."



Additionally, these priorities meet specific PSIC grant initiatives and concepts. They include:

- Use of Advanced Technology;
- Spectrum Efficiency;
- Cost Effective Solutions;
- Future Interface and Use of 700 MHz spectrum.

The Interoperability Montana Project has identified three primary projects for PSIC grant use, which are outlined in detail in Section 11 of Montana's SCIP as well as in the PSIC Grant Investment Justifications. These projects meet the priorities established by the IMPD and meet PSIC grant requirements.

The target projects include:

1. **Digital Microwave Backbone Connectivity – Helena to Billings:** This project addresses the needs for digital connectivity between the state capital in Helena (a key radio/data control site) to Billings, Montana, the state's largest urban area. This project connects microwave in the Northern Tier Project with existing microwave in the South Central Consortium in southern Montana. This project impacts three regional consortia and the urban area of Billings and Yellowstone County. The project will involve building five communications sites and ten microwave hops (A microwave 'hop' refers to the connectivity of digital microwave between two tower locations or a tower and endpoint). Once reliable sites are established and digital connections made, the IM project, along with individual local, tribal and state agencies can connect to each other for greater interoperability and reliable information flow.
2. **Digital Microwave Backbone Southwest Loop:** This project will address interoperability connectivity needs in I 15/90 Corridor and the South-Central Interoperability Consortia. This infrastructure development and digital microwave installation will connect the Master Control Site in Helena to Butte, Bozeman and southwest regions of the state. The loop will provide interface with the Idaho system near Interstate 15. The project is estimated to involve nine site upgrades, thirteen microwave hops and future 700 MHz interoperability repeaters at the Idaho border connected into the loop.
3. **Strategic Technology Reserve (STR):** This project addresses investing in pre-deployment equipment, such as portable generators, towers, and repeaters that could be rapidly set up in the event of a disaster. In addition, Montana has requested a partial waiver of STR funds to be used to purchase two emergency spare kits for the state's two Master Controllers and three radio and microwave site rapid response maintenance packs.



## **Participating Agencies in the Development of the Montana SCIP**

Representatives and departments who participate in Interoperability Montana meetings and had input into the state SCIP are listed below.

### ***Governor's Office***

- Sheena Wilson, Governor Brian Schweitzer's Deputy Chief of Staff

### ***State of Montana***

- Public Safety Services Bureau, Information Technology Services Division, Dept. of Administration
- Montana Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation
- Montana Highway Patrol
- Montana National Guard

### ***State Transportation Agencies***

- Kevin Bruski, Dept. of Transportation

### ***Regional Planning Committee Chairperson for 700 and 800 MHz***

- Jerry Dupler, President, Timberline Communications

### ***Statewide Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC)***

- Dick Clark, State of Montana Chief Information Officer, SIEC Chair
- Kathy Bessette, Hill County Commissioner
- Mary Failing, Emergency Medical Services Representative, Poplar, MT
- Larry Fastbender, Deputy Attorney General, Dept. of Justice
- Mike Ferriter, Director, Department of Corrections
- Jeff Hagener, Director, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
- William R. Hedstrom, Chair, Board of Livestock
- Elizabeth Horsman, Assistant US Attorney
- Captain Dick Lewis, Missoula Police Dept.
- Chuck Lee, Fallon County 9-1-1
- Sheriff Cheryl Liedle, Lewis & Clark County Sheriff
- Jim Lynch, Director, Department of Transportation
- Joan Miles, Director, Department of Public Health and Human Services
- MG Randall Mosley, Adjutant General, Department of Military Affairs
- Jodi O'Sullivan, Polson Volunteer Fire Department
- Mary Sexton, Director, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
- Ron Tussing, Mayor, City of Billings
- Sheena Wilson, Deputy Chief of Staff, Governor's Office
- Chief Chuck Winn, Bozeman Fire Department

### ***Interoperability Montana Project Directors (IMPD)***

#### ***Voting Members:***

- **Chief Alan Michaels, IMPD Chair**  
Eastern Tier Interoperability Consortium Project Director

- **Ed Auker**  
Big Sky 11 Consortium Project Director
- **Joe Brenneman**  
Flathead County Commissioner Project Director
- **Kevin Bruski**  
Montana Dept. of Transportation
- **Sheriff Jim Cashell**  
Mobile Data Terminal Consortium Project Director
- **Sheriff Wayne Dusterhoff**  
Northern Tier Interoperability Consortium Project Director
- **George Gup-ton**  
Western Interoperable Communications Consortium Project Director
- **Sheriff Scott Howard**  
Tri-County Consortium
- **Cheri Kilby**  
Central Montana Interoperable Communications Consortium Project Director
- **Dave McPherson**  
I-15/90 Corridor Consortium
- **Ted Mead**  
Montana Dept. of Natural Resources and Conservation
- **Kerry O'Connell**  
South Central Montana Interoperability Consortium Project Director
- **Roger Smith**  
Montana Highway Patrol

#### **Non-Voting Members:**

- **Chris Christensen**  
Chief, Public Safety Services Bureau (PSSB)
- **David Hinds**  
Project Manager, U.S. Air Force, Malmstrom
- **Dan Sullivan**  
Montana Disaster and Emergency Services (DES)
- **Col. Ken Switzer**  
Montana National Guard

#### ***Eight Regional Voice Consortia and One Mobile Data***

##### **Big Sky 11 Consortium**

The 12 jurisdictions making up the Big Sky 11 Consortium include Big Horn, Carbon, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Petroleum, Rosebud, Stillwater, Treasure, Wheatland and Yellowstone counties as well as the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Reservations.

##### **Local Elected Officials**

- Leslie Burroughs, Golden Valley County Commissioner
- Floyd Fisher, Golden Valley County Sheriff
- Jim Reno, Yellowstone County Commissioner
- Mack Cole, Treasure County Commissioner

##### **Local Emergency Response Services**

- Ray Hetherington, Wheatland County 9-1-1
- Dorothy Gremaux, Central Montana 9-1-1

**Local Health Officials**

- Tony Rich, St. Vincent Healthcare

**Local Fire Response Services**

- Alan Harper, Billings Fire
- John Staley, Billings Fire

**Local Law Enforcement**

- Vince Wallis, Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office
- Bill Michaelis, Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office

**State Law Enforcement**

- Dale Osborne, Montana Highway Patrol
- Roger Smith, Montana Highway Patrol

**Local Emergency Management**

- Ed Auker, Bighorn County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Darrel Krum, Carbon County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Lisa Solf, Petroleum County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Jeff Gates, Musselshell County Disaster and Emergency Services
- James Kraft, Yellowstone County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Ken Mesch, Stillwater County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Carole Raymond, Rosebud County Disaster and Emergency Services

**State Emergency Management and Homeland Security**

- Charlie Hanson, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services

**Tribal Governments**

- Susette Nanto-Spang, Crow Reservation Disaster and Emergency Services
- Benito Morrison Sr., Crow Reservation Disaster and Emergency Services
- Cindy Burns, Northern Cheyenne Tribe
- Ed Joiner, Northern Cheyenne Tribe Disaster and Emergency Services

**Military Organizations**

- Montana National Guard (190<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Battalion)

**Federal agencies that need to be interoperable with state and local emergency responders**

- Bruce Brown, FBI
- Patrick Scott, Bureau of Land Management
- Edward Lone Fight, Crow Agency – Bureau of Indian Affairs

**Other Non-Government Organizations**

- Larry Brewster, NorthWestern Energy and Billings City Council

**Central Montana Interoperability Communications Consortium (CMICC)**

CMICC is made up of representatives from Cascade County, the Chippewa Cree Tribe (Rocky Boy's Reservation), Chouteau County, Fergus County, Judith Basin County, Pondera County and Teton County as well as the U.S. Air Force.

**Local Elected Officials**

- Tom Kuka, Pondera County Sheriff
- Larry Ophus, Choteau County Sheriff

**Local Emergency Response Services**

- Dorothy Gremaux, Central Montana 9-1-1

**Local Law Enforcement**

- Corky Grove, Great Falls Police Chief
- Tom Kuka, Pondera County Sheriff
- Jesse Callender, Cascade County Sheriff's Office

**State Law Enforcement**

- Roger Smith, Montana Highway Patrol

**Local Emergency Management**

- Cheri Kilby, Fergus County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Vince Kolar, Cascade County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Debra Coverdell, Teton County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Leanne Hermance, Pondera County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Linda Williams, Chouteau County Disaster and Emergency Services

**Tribal Governments**

- Dallas Sun Child, Rocky Boy's Reservation

**Military Organizations**

- Montana National Guard
- David Hinds, U.S. Air Force, Malmstrom AFB

**Eastern Tier Consortium**

The ETIC includes members from Carter, Custer, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland and Wibaux counties.

**Local Elected Officials**

- Rusty Jardee, Carter County Sheriff
- Tony Harbaugh, Custer County Sheriff
- Doug Buxbaum, Dawson County Commissioner
- Jim Skillestad, Dawson County Commissioner
- Craig Anderson, Dawson County Sheriff

**Local Emergency Response Services**

- Chuck Lee, Fallon County 9-1-1 Coordinator

**Local Fire Response Services**

- Rich Kransky, Miles City Fire and Rescue

**Local Law Enforcement**

- Craig Anderson, Dawson County Sheriff
- Rich Rowe, Undersheriff, Dawson County
- Denny Palmer, Richland County Sheriff's Office
- Lt. Darrin Moser, Chief of Security, Dawson County Correctional Facility
- Alan Michaels, Glendive Police Chief; ETIC Project Director
- John Blain, Powder River Sheriff

**State Law Enforcement**

- Dale Osborne, Montana Highway Patrol

**Local Emergency Management**

- Candy Loehling, Carter County DES Coordinator
- Pam Crisafulli, Dawson County DES Coordinator
- Carol Hellyer, Garfield County DES Coordinator
- Alan Stempel, McCone County DES Coordinator
- Mistica Hisdahl, McCone County DES Coordinator
- John Pisk, Prairie County DES Coordinator
- Butch Renders, Richland County DES Coordinator
- Frank Datta, Wibaux County DES Coordinator

**State Emergency Management and Homeland Security**

- Norman Parrent, District IV Representative, Montana Disaster and Emergency Services

**Federal agencies that need to be interoperable with state and local emergency responders**

- Bruce Brown, FBI

**I-15/90 Corridor Consortium**

The following four counties, Anaconda-Deer Lodge, Beaverhead, Butte-Silver Bow and Granite) form the I-15/90 Corridor Interoperable Communications Consortium.

**Local Elected Officials**

- Sheriff John Walsh, Butte-Silver Bow
- Cliff Nelson, Granite County Commissioner
- Charlie O'Leary, Butte-Silver Bow County Commissioner

**Local Fire Response Services**

- Jeff Miller, Director of Fire Services, Butte-Silver Bow
- Chief Scott Marsh, Dillon Volunteer Fire Department
- Steve Jorgenson, Anaconda Fire Department

**Local Law Enforcement**

- Sheriff John Walsh, Butte-Silver Bow

**State Law Enforcement**

- Roger Smith, Montana Highway Patrol

**Local Emergency Management**

- Bill Converse, Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Larry Laknar, Beaverhead County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Bob McWilliams, Beaverhead County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Bob Mazzolini, Granite County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Bart Bonney, Granite County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Roger Ebner, Butte-Silver Bow Emergency Management Coordinator

**Federal agencies that need to be interoperable with state and local emergency responders**

- Bruce Brown, FBI

**Northern Tier Interoperability Consortium (NTIC)**

The Northern Tier Interoperability Consortium is the largest communications consortium in the state, consisting of 12 counties and 4 Indian Nations. The counties of Blaine, Daniels, Flathead, Glacier, Hill, Liberty, Lincoln, Phillips, Roosevelt, Sheridan, Toole and Valley participate as well as the Blackfeet, Confederated Salish and Kootenai, Fort Belknap, and Fort Peck Indian Nations.

**Local Elected Officials**

- Glenn Huestis, Blaine County Sheriff
- Lalon Trang, Daniels County Commissioner
- Joe Brenneman, Flathead County Commissioner Chairman
- Wayne Dusterhoff, Glacier County Sheriff
- Larry Hendrickson, Liberty County Commissioner
- Tom Miller, Phillips County Sheriff
- Jim Shanks, Roosevelt County Commissioner
- Pat Ulrickson, Sheridan County Sheriff
- David Miller, Toole County Commissioner
- Donna Mattoon, Toole County Sheriff

**Local Emergency Response Services**

- Nora Kennedy, 9-1-1 Coordinator, Blackfeet Indian Nation



- James Laidlaw, EMS
- Yvonne Hunnewell, 9-1-1 Coordinator, Liberty County

#### **Local Law Enforcement**

- Wayne Dusterhoff, Glacier County Sheriff
- Glenn Huestis, Blaine County Sheriff
- Don Brostrom, Undersheriff, Hill County
- Ron Knudsen, Hill County LEPC
- Daryl Anderson, Lincoln County Sheriff
- Donna Mattoon, Toole County Sheriff
- Vernon Buerkle, Valley County Undersheriff

#### **State Law Enforcement**

- Dale Osborne, Montana Highway Patrol
- Roger Smith, Montana Highway Patrol

#### **Local Emergency Management**

- Haley Gustitis, Blaine County LEPC
- Curtis Petrik, Daniels County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator
- Cindy Mullaney, Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Services, Flathead County
- Marc McGill, Director, Emergency Mgmt. Lincoln County
- Scott Moran, Phillips County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator
- Daniel Sietsema, Roosevelt County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator
- Curtis Petrik, Sheridan County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator
- Rick Seiler, Valley County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator

#### **Tribal Governments**

- Janice Hawley, Human Resource Manager, Fort Belknap Reservation
- Arlyn Headdress, Council Member, Fort Peck Reservation
- Nora Kennedy, 9-1-1 Coordinator, Blackfeet Indian Nation
- Jolene Jacobson, Office of Emergency Management, Salish & Kootenai Tribe

#### **Military Organizations**

- Montana National Guard

#### **Federal agencies that need to be interoperable with state and local emergency responders**

- Bruce Brown, FBI

#### **Other Non-Government Organizations**

- Lee Rampley, BNSF Railway

### **South Central Montana Interoperability Consortium (SCMIC)**

The South Central Montana Interoperable Consortium (SCMIC) is composed of representatives from Gallatin, Madison, Meagher, Park and Sweet Grass Counties.

#### **Local Emergency Response Services**

- Ben Hess, Gallatin County 9-1-1 Director
- Steve Digiovanna, Communications Coordinator, Madison County
- Maebeth Seidlitz, Meagher County 9-1-1 Coordinator
- Peggy Glass, Park County 91-1 Coordinator

#### **Local Fire Response Services**

- Jason Shrauger, Bozeman Fire

#### **Local Law Enforcement**

- Rick Seidlitz, Meagher County Sheriff

#### **State Law Enforcement**

- Roger Smith, Montana Highway Patrol

#### **Local Emergency Management**



- Kerry O'Connell, Sweet Grass County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Christopher W. Mumme, Madison County Disaster and Emergency Services

### **Tri-County Interoperability Consortium**

Broadwater, Jefferson, Lewis and Clark and Powell Counties along with the State of Montana Department of Corrections have formed the Tri-County Consortium (TIC).

#### **Local Elected Officials**

- Scott Howard, Powell County Sheriff
- Craig Dolittle, Jefferson County Sheriff

#### **Local Emergency Management**

- Sally Buckles, Jefferson County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator

#### **Local Law Enforcement**

- Ben Knapp, Undersheriff, Broadwater County
- Leo Dutton, Undersheriff Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's Office
- Jack Spillman, Radio System Administrator, Lewis and Clark County

#### **State Law Enforcement**

- Bill Fleiner, Department of Correction, MT State Prison
- Harlan Sipe, Dept. of Corrections maintenance Manager
- Roger Smith, Montana Highway Patrol

#### **Military Organizations**

- Montana National Guard

### **Western Interoperability Consortium (WICC)**

The WICC, in western Montana, includes Lake, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties.

#### **Local Elected Officials**

- Leslie Burroughs, Golden Valley County Commissioner
- Floyd Fisher, Golden Valley County Sheriff
- Jim Reno, Yellowstone County Commissioner
- Mack Cole, Treasure County Commissioner

#### **Local Emergency Response Services**

- Mark Denke, Sanders County 9-1-1

#### **Local Fire Response Services**

- Alan Harper, Billings Fire
- John Staley, Billings Fire

#### **Local Law Enforcement**

- Vince Wallis, Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office
- Bill Machaelis, Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office

#### **State Law Enforcement**

- Roger Smith, Montana Highway Patrol

#### **Local Emergency Management**

- Bob Reid, Missoula County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Ron Nichols, Ravalli County Disaster and Emergency Services
- George Gupton, Mineral County Disaster and Emergency Services
- Steve Stanley, Lake County Disaster and Emergency Services

### **Mobile Data Terminal Consortium (MDT)**

The Mobile Data Terminal (MDT) Consortium is a user group comprised of the Montana Highway Patrol, Montana Department of Transportation and municipal/county law enforcement representatives from Butte/Silver Bow, Cascade, Custer, Gallatin, Lewis and Clark and Yellowstone Counties.

#### **Local Elected Officials**

- Jim Cashell, Gallatin County Sheriff
- John Walsh, Butte-Silver Bow Sheriff

#### **Local Emergency Response Services**

- Peggy Glass, Park County 9-1-1 Coordinator
- Ben Hess, Gallatin County 9-1-1 Director

#### **Local Fire Response Services**

- Chuck Winn, Bozeman Fire
- Jason Shrauger, Bozeman Fire

#### **Local Law Enforcement**

- Blaine Weston, Deputy Sheriff, Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office
- Keith Gruenig, Yellowstone County Sheriff's Office
- Leo Dutton, Undersheriff, Lewis and Clark County
- E. J. Clark, Police Chief, Belgrade Police Department
- Mark Lachapelle, Bozeman Police Department
- Scott O'Connell, Helena Police Department

#### **State Law Enforcement**

- Dale Osborne, Montana Highway Patrol
- Roger Smith, Montana Highway Patrol

#### **State IT**

- Bill Griffenberg, Information Technology Services Division, Dept. of Administration

#### **Military Organizations**

- Montana National Guard